(b) whether the Prime Minister of India took up the issue with the US administration explaining its ramifications in lndo-Pak equilibrium; and

(e) what other steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government remains committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard India's security.

**Review of Appointment of Non-IFS Persons in Diplomatic Assignments**

7687. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons not belonging to the Indian Foreign Service have been appointed as Ambassadors and High Commissioners of India in various countries;

(b) if so, what are the names of such persons and the countries where they have been posted;

(c) by when their term of office is scheduled to be completed; and

(d) whether Government are reviewing the policy of appointing non-IFS persons in diplomatic assignments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is given below:—

| *SI. No.* | *Name of Ambassador/ High Commissioner* | *Country of Accreditation* | *Country of concurrent Accreditation* | *Date of Completion of tenure* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Shri Kushok Bakula | Mongolia | — | 31.12.94 |
| 2. | Prof. C. Lakshmanna | Trinidad and Tobago | Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Christopher and Nevis, Anguilla, Montserrat. | 30.06.94 |
| 3. | Dr. Bimal Prasad | Nepal | — | 31.12.94 |
| 4. | Shri D.S. Pannun | Ghana | Togo, Burkina Faso, Liberia and the Central African Republic. | 04.03.95 |
| 5. | *Dr. G.S. Rajhans | Laos | — | 09.11.94 |
| 6. | Shri S.S. Ray | United States of America | Bahamas | 28.10.94 |
| 7. | Dr. L.M. Singhvi | United Kingdom | — | 01.04.96 |
| 8. | Dr. Har Swarup Singh | Maldives | — | 28.03.95 |
| 9. | Brig. (Retd.) Bhawani Singh | Brunei | — | 27.06.95 |
| 10. | Shri Pushkar Johari | Bhutan | | Re-employed for 1 year w.e.f. 01.04.94 |

*Dr. G.S. Rajhans has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Cambodia and is expected to joint his new assignment shortly.

(d) No, Sir.